

Domestic Violence Coordinating Council
Treatment Committee
July 19, 2017 at 10:00 AM
Middletown Police Department

- I. In attendance were: Dan Armstrong, Melissa Kearney, Ellie Torres, Lucille Stanish, Terry Pepper and Blanch Creech. DVCC Staff: Natasha Smith and Aimee String
- II. Old Business
 - a. Assessment of treatment programs: Project Update
 - i. The assessment has been completed. Copies of the Executive Summary and Full Report were circulated for review.
 - ii. Dan Armstrong noted three positives that he feels like have come from the assessment. (1) The assessment points to lower recidivism rates for those who have completed a program. (2) The assessment indicates documented attitude change in batterers. (3) The BIPs have committed and dedicated staff members
 - iii. Next steps
 - 1. The committee will use our October meeting to take a closer look at the Recommendations. Are there ways we can incorporate them into our work?
 - 2. Ellie Torres will mention the completion of the assessment at the Statewide Commissioner's Meeting.
 - 3. Aimee String will give a presentation on the assessment results at the Quarterly DVCC meeting. Ellie, Dan, Blanche and Shamla will have the opportunity to preview the presentation prior to the meeting and offer input.
 - a. Information about fee structure and bus passes should be included in presentation.
 - b. Update on training for treatment providers
 - i. The Domestic Violence Intervention Standards require all BIP facilitators to receive yearly training in order to be certified. Last year, the DVCC was able to provide training to the providers via a grant. This year the committee was able to piggy back on the Emerge Training in order to offer some BIP training. The committee believes it is important to continue to look for ways to bring trainings to Delaware. While some

programs pay for facilitators to get training hours, other are unable to do so. Trainings can be very costly to attend.

- ii. The Emerge Training being held on October 21st at Delaware Technical and Community College in Dover, DE will be a full-day training. There will be breakout sessions specific to Batterer's Intervention.

c. New Business

i. Revision of Domestic Violence Intervention Standards

- 1. The committee agreed that we need to do a careful review of the Recommendations from the Assessment prior to beginning a revision of the Intervention Standards.
 - a. As we begin work on the revision of the standards, it was noted that all offenders are not the same and shouldn't attend the same program. There are core concepts that all offenders need. It was suggested that we look at what a tiered system would look like.
- 2. Once we have reviewed all of the recommendations, we will form a committee to determine what if any revisions are necessary.

d. Agency Reports

- i. Marcey Rezac, Director of the SAFE Program at People's Place has resigned. Jennifer Opal, Assistant Director will be filling in as Acting Director
- ii. Contact Lifeline is hiring a part time therapist for Kent/Sussex Counties and a bilingual Sexual Assault Advocate.

e. Public Comment

- i. None

- f. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 11 at 10:00 AM at the Middletown Police Department